

Message Text

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11

ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ADP-00 XMB-07 TRSE-00 AID-20 EB-11

INT-08 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OMB-01

AGR-20 L-03 /111 W

----- 087534

R 132319Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4894

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3122

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJ: CENTRAL BANK SEEKS OPIC CERTIFICATION OF NON-INSURANCE

PASS OPIC, EX-IM, AND TREAS

1. SUMMARY: LOCAL ESSO OFFICIAL HAS QUERIED EMBASSY ON POSSIBILITY MEETING CENTRAL BANK REQUEST FOR OPIC CERTIFICATION THAT LOAN MADE TO LOCAL ESSO PLASTICIZER PLANT BY STANDARD OIL CO. (NEW JERSEY) IN 1965 IS NOT RPT NOT OPIC INSURED. CERTIFICATE NEEDED BEFORE CB PREPARED DISCUSS REMITTING PAYMENTS. CB OFFICIAL ALLEGES REMITTANCE MAY BE POSSIBLE BECAUSE PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS IN ANACONDA/DENNECOTT DISPUTE. OPIC ADVICE REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. LOCAL ESSO CONTROLLER, ENRIQUE ASHER, ASKED EMBASSY FOR CERTIFICATE FROM OPIC THAT OPIC HAD NOT RPT NOT INSURED US \$200,000 LOAN MADE BY STANDARD OIL (NJ) TO LOCAL SUBSIDIARY IN DECEMBER 1965. ASHER SAID THAT REMITTANCES OF LOAN, INTERES AND DIVIDEND PAYMENTS BLOCKED BY CB SINCE JANUARY 1970. ESSO SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED BY CB THAT SUCH PAYMENTS SUBJECT TO PARIS CLUB ARGREEMENT. THIS WEEK ASHER TOLD CB MANAGER OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, GUSTAVO ROTGER, THAT ESSO'S RECENT HELP IN ACQUIRING SORELY-NEEDED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FOR CHILE REQUIRED RECIPROCAL SIGN OF GOOD WILL FROM GOC. ASHER SUGGESTED THIS COULD TAKE FORM OF ALLOWING REMITTANCE OF THESE PAYMENTS.

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3. ACCORDING TO ASHER, ROTGER ALLEGED GOC NOW HOPEFUL THAT AGREEMENT MAY BE REACHED ON KENNECOTT/ANACONDA DISPUTE AND THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO AGREEMENT WITH USG UNDER PARIS CLUB UMBRELLA. (RUTGER IS NOT VERY WELL "PLUGGED IN" IN HIGH GOC CIRCLES.) IN VIEW THESE DEVELOPMENTS, ESSO COULD HOPE TO REMIT SOME OF ITS BLOCKED PAYMENTS SOON. ROTGER TOLD ASHER THAT "SINE QUA NON" OF SUCH REMITTANCE WOULD BE RECEIPT BY CB OF OPIC CERTIFICATE THAT LOAN NOT RPT NOT OPIC INSURED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY SEEKS OPIC ADVICE ON POSSIBILITY PROVIDING ESSO WITH DESIRED CERTIFICATION.
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NNN

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